



Brecon Borough Council

Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1965.

Officials.

Medical Officer of Health.....T.C.R. George, M.R.C.S.,  
Guildhall, Brecon, L.R.C.P.,  
T.N. Brecon 2884. D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector.....S. Jinks,  
Sanitary Inspector's  
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary  
Inspector's Examination Joint Board, Meat and Other Foods  
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Testamur of the  
Cardiff Technical College.



Brecon Borough Council  
Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
1965

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report on the sanitary conditions and the state of the public health in the Borough of Brecon during the year 1965.

In this report I have endeavoured to deal briefly with all matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine and I have included comments on all subjects specifically requested in Circular 1/66 (Wales) by the Welsh Board of Health.

Section 1. General and Vital Statistics.

Area .....2868 acres.

<u>Population,</u>	Census 1931.....	5332.
	Census 1951.....	6466.
	Census 1961.....	5797.
	Estimated Midsummer 1965.....	5907.

The Registrar General's estimates for the last ten years are shown below:

1956. 1957. 1958. 1959. 1960. 1961. 1962. 1963. 1964. 1965.

6190. 6370. 6080. 6460. 5680. 5780. 5830. 5800. 5890. 5907.

Inhabited Houses. The number of inhabited houses was 1912 giving an average per house of 3.0 persons.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Crude Rate per 1000 Pop.</u>
Legitimate	54.	34.	88.	
Illegitimate	4.	1.	5.	
	58.	35.	93.	15.7

The corrected rate was 18.2

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 18.0. The district rate was therefore a little higher than the national average and much higher than the district deathrate, which is a satisfactory feature.

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Crude Rate per 1000 Pop.</u>
	36.	37.	73.	12.3

The corrected rate was 10.5

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 11.5. The district rate was therefore lower than the national average and also lower than the district birthrate.

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 live &amp; still births.</u>
	1.	0.	1.	10.6.

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 15.7.

The district rate was therefore lower than the national average.

Infant Deaths. There was one death registered during the year in a child of under one year of age. This child died when under one year of age.

Total Mortality rate .....10.7

The rate for England and Wales was 19.0 which was higher than the Borough rate.

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Maternal Deaths. There were no deaths which could be attributed to childbirth, which was an extremely satisfactory feature.

Maternal Morality rate.....0.

Deaths from Special Causes.

Infectious disease.....Nil.  
Respiratory tuberculosis.....Nil.  
Other forms tuberculosis.....Nil.  
Cancer.....7.

Analysis of Causes of Deaths.        Males.....36. Females.....37.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	0.....	1.
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	0.....	1.
Other malignant neoplasms.....	3.....	2.
Vascular lesions, nervous system.....	3.....	7.
Coronary disease.....	8.....	5.
Hypertension, with heart disease.....	1.....	1.
Other heart disease.....	5.....	11.
Other circulatory disease.....	7.....	3.
Bronchitis.....	5.....	0.
Ulcer stomach.....	1.....	0.
Gastritis.....	0.....	1.
Hyperplasia prostate.....	2.....	0.
Consinital malformations.....	1.....	1.
Other defined diseases.....	0.....	3.
Motor Vehicle accidents.....	0.....	1.

The table shows the number of deaths from tuberculosis and cancer in recent years.

	<u>Cancer</u>	<u>Tuberculosis</u>
1954.....	12.....	0.
1955.....	15.....	2.
1956.....	19.....	2.
1957.....	15.....	0.
1958.....	11.....	1.
1959.....	8.....	1.
1960.....	6.....	1.
1961.....	14.....	1.
1962.....	24.....	1.
1963.....	11.....	0.
1964.....	15.....	0.
1965.....	7.....	0.

Section 2. General Provisions of Health Services.

Public Health Officers. There was no change in the public health officers of the Council during the year. Mr. Jinks remained as your Public Health Inspector.

Laboratory Facilities. During the year laboratory facilities were available at Cardiff, Carmarthen, Swansea, Aberystwyth and Brecon.

The examination of water and milk samples can be carried out at these laboratories whilst any necessary investigation required in the control of infectious disease is done in the Cardiff Laboratory.





Nursing and Other Facilities. The County Council is responsible for the provision of the ambulance and home nursing services. The County also administer the maternity and child welfare clinics where treatment is available for minor ailments, dental, eye and orthopaedic defects. Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough is also carried out at these clinics.

Hospitals. The hospital needs of the residents of the Borough, for all diseases apart from infectious disease, are provided by the Brecon War Memorial Hospital. There is also the St. David's Hospital which deals with cases of chronic illness.

The arrangements for the treatment of infectious disease remains the same as in previous years. Merthyr Borough Council treat the patients from the district suffering from infectious disease and these are conveyed to Merthyr in ambulances maintained by Merthyr.

For the treatment of cases of smallpox, arrangements have been made by the Welsh Board of Health for beds to be available at the Penrhys Hospital, Rhondda.

Section 3. Sanitary Circumstances.

Water Supply. Until the 31st March, 1959, the Borough Council were responsible for the supply of water in their district. After this date the Council became a constituent member of the new South East Breconshire Water Board which is now responsible for the supply of water in the Borough.

Piped Supply. All the houses in the Borough, with the exception of 16 of those on the extreme borders have a tapped supply to the house. The 16 others have their own private supply.

Drainage and Sewerage. The sewage in the Borough is treated by downward filtration and the effluent finally passes into the River Usk. The effluent is unsatisfactory and the sewage works is unsuitable for the treatment of the sewage.

The investigation into the surface infiltration has been carried out by the Council's Consulting Engineers and final details of the new sewerage scheme and disposal works are now under preparation for submission to the Ministry. It is important that this work be proceeded with as quickly as possible as permission for future housing depends on the installation of the new scheme.

Number of visits made by Public Health Inspector in connection with drainage work.....111.

Refuse Collection. There was no change in the methods adopted for the weekly collection and disposal of house refuse, this work being done by the Council under the supervision of your Surveyor. The refuse is disposed of by tipping.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The sanitary inspection of the area was undertaken by the Public Health Inspector, Mr. S. Jinks. At this junction I must state that I am indebted to the Public Health Inspector for the figures and details of his work contained in this report. This information has proved most useful in the preparation of this report.

Nuisances.

Number of complaints received.....	51.
Number of complaints investigated.....	51.
Number of premises inspected.....	55.
Number of premises revisited.....	6.
Number of preliminary notices served.....	7.
for (a) Structural defects.....	6.
(b) Sanitary defects.....	1.
Number of Statutory Notices served.....	1.





4/. 19

Result of Notices served.

Number completed.....6.  
 Number in hand of builder.....1.

Offensive Trades. There are no offensive trades in the district.

Common Lodging Houses. There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Licenses Premises.

Number of licensed premises.....24.  
 Number of visits to such premises.....26.

Particular attention was given to the provision of sufficient and suitable sanitary accommodation and proper washing facilities.

Details. Provision of sanitary conveniences and washing facilities.

Number of premises with separate sanitary accommodation.....24.  
 Number of premises without separate sanitary accommodation.....0.  
 Number of premises with proper washing facilities.....24.  
 Number of premises without proper washing facilities.....0.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The above Act came into operation during the year:-

	<u>No. registered during year</u>	<u>Total No. on Register</u>	<u>Number of inspections</u>
Offices	5	46	46
Retail Shops	16	79	79
Wholesale shops, warehouses	2	2	2
Catering Establishments	12	19	19
Fuel storage depots	-	2	2

Factories.

Number of factories on the register.....36.  
 Number of inspections made.....34.

Caravan Licences.

Under the provision of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act the position is as follows.

Number of sites licensed permanently.....0.  
 Number of sites with limited period.....8.  
 Total number of caravans authorised.....21.

One site containing 8 caravans was closed during the year after the service of an Enforcement Notice under the Town & Country Planning Act.

Eradication of Bed Bugs and Steps taken to combat infestation.

All premises found as a result of inspection or complaint to be infested with bed bugs or other vermin are treated with D.D.T. preparations which have been found to be very satisfactory.

Number of premises inspected.....1.  
 Number of premises disinfested.....1.

Rodent Control. One part-time Rodent Operator is employed who works under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

Details of Inspections and Treatments

	<u>Premises</u>			
	<u>Business</u>	<u>Dwelling</u>	<u>Municipal</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
Number of inspections.....	298	2524	23	13
Number infested.....	9	48	16	11
a) Major infestations.....	0	0	0	0
b) Minor infestations.....	9	48	16	11

9.

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Number of treatments..... If.....

*[Faint handwritten notes at the bottom of the page]*

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Model of treatment

[illegible]



Sewer Treatment. During the year two maintenance treatments were carried out. Details are given below.

	<u>1st Treatment</u>	<u>2nd. Treatment</u>
Number of manholes.....	185.....	185.
Number of manholes baited.....	16.....	13.
Number of prebait takes.....	7.....	8.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Number of licensed pet shops.....2.

Section 4. Housing.

1. Housing Need. Applicants for Council Houses. There is still a definite demand for housing accommodation in the Borough. It must be remembered that apart from the normal residents the demand is increased due to the fact that the town is a military and administrative centre for Government and other departments. The Council have received requests from the War Department and from the occupiers of a factory recently completed, for houses for key workers being transferred to Brecon.

Bearing in mind the standard laid down by the Central Housing Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Health on the question of "Housing Need" in their report "Selection of Tenants" and with particular reference to their standard for overcrowding based on bedroom deficiency the Council's waiting list showed the following details.

Type of Applicant	Total	Residing in Borough	From outside Borough
Without separate accommodation and bedroom deficiency	0	0	0
Without separate accommodation	2	2	0
T.B. Applicants	1	0	1
From Slum List	27	27	0
Substandard houses with bedroom deficiency	1	0	1
Other applicants without amenities in home	8	3	5
Other applicants	43	22	21
Caravans	4	3	1
Totals	86	55	29

Applications for Bungalows

Without separate accommodation	11	8	3
In houses without amenities	20	18	2
In large houses	23	12	11
Totals	54	38	16

Housing Consolidated Regulations, Article 31.

1. The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation.....58
2. The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action taken by the local authority or their offices.....9



Table 1. Summary of Data

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Year	Population	Area
1980	100	100
1985	100	100
1990	100	100
1995	100	100
2000	100	100
2005	100	100
2010	100	100
2015	100	100
2020	100	100
2025	100	100
2030	100	100
2035	100	100
2040	100	100
2045	100	100
2050	100	100
2055	100	100
2060	100	100
2065	100	100
2070	100	100
2075	100	100
2080	100	100
2085	100	100
2090	100	100
2095	100	100
2100	100	100

Table 1. Summary of Data

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3. The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to  
 (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works or  
 (b) the making of demolition or closing orders.....29.
4. The number of notices served requiring the execution of works.....0.
5. The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.....2.
6. Number of demolition or closing orders.....0.
7. The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking under sub-section 3 of section 11 of the Housing Act 1936 was accepted.....28.
8. The number of houses demolished.....0.

#### Allocation of Houses.

During the year the following relettings took place:-

Ffynnon Dewi	1
Bryn De Winton	1
Uplands	4
Brynawelon	2

#### Relettings - General Need

Ffynnon Dewi	3
Adelaide Gardens	1
Bryn de Winton	1
Coryton Close	2
Brynawelon	4
Adelaide Gardens Bungalows	1

#### Post War Housing.

##### 1. By Borough Council

##### a) Houses completed

No. of 4 Bedroom Houses	10
No. of 3 Bedroom Houses	260
No. of 2 Bedroom Houses	6
No. of 2 Bedroom Bungalows	2
No. of 1 Bedroom Bungalows	33

Total

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311

1932-1933



b) Fut. Housing

The Council's Architects have prepared layouts and house plans for 25 houses at Uplands and 18 Bungalows at Llanfaes.

By Private Enterprise.

Total number of houses erected in the year.....17.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Number of houses approved for Discretionary Grants.....9.

Number of applications approved for Standard Grants.....6.

Housing Inspections by Public Health Inspector.

Number of house to house inspections.....194.

Number of visits to Council houses.....96.

Section 5. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Number of registered dairies in the Borough.....3.

Number of distributors licensed by Borough Council.....3.

Number of producer/distributors in Borough.....0.

Number of producer/distributors from Rural District.....1.

Total number distributing in Borough.....4.

Record of Inspections.

Number of visits to dairies.....12.

Meat. There is a slaughterhouse in the Borough which is sufficient to meet the demands of the district and neighbourhood. The slaughterhouse has been leased to the Fatstock Marketing Corporation, but all its facilities are available to local butchers.

The Meat Regulations 1963. The above regulations came into operation on the 1st October 1963. The regulations require all meat to be inspected and marked when fit for human consumption. Complete inspection had been carried out prior to these regulations but the meat marking is a new innovation. The Council have made the following charges for meat inspection:-

2s.0d. per cattle  
6d. per calf  
6d. per pig  
4d. per sheep or lamb

Meat Inspections.

Number of inspections.....471.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole and Part

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	1577	20	8	15,401	380	-
Number inspected	1577	20	8	15,401	380	-

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	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerchi</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	3	1	-	6	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	380	10	-	1,426	48	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerchi	24.2	55.0	-	9.3	12.6	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	5	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.3	-

It is interesting to note that this is the sixth year that no tuberculosis has been found in Cattle. The incidence has been decreasing rapidly in the post war years and it is pleasing to report this evidence of the success of the Ministry's campaign in the eradication of Bovine T.B.

#### Cysticerchi

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	6	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

#### Total Weight Condemned of Home Killed in lbs. weight for T.B.

Whole Carcasses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcasses	-	-	-	-	56	-
Organs	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	56	-

#### For Other Diseases

Whole carcasses	881	768	-	296	-	-
Part Carcasses	1359	1090	-	316	190	-
Organs	4311	200	-	4368	161	-
	6551	2058	-	4980	351	-



TABLE 1. Results of the Survey of the Attitudes of Physicians Toward the Use of the Term "Mental Retardation" in the Medical Literature

Response	No.	%	No.	%
Agree	10	100	10	100
Disagree	0	0	0	0
No opinion	0	0	0	0
Total	10	100	10	100

NOTE: The results of the survey of the attitudes of physicians toward the use of the term "mental retardation" in the medical literature are shown in Table 1. The results of the survey of the attitudes of physicians toward the use of the term "mental retardation" in the medical literature are shown in Table 1.

Response	No.	%	No.	%
Agree	10	100	10	100
Disagree	0	0	0	0
No opinion	0	0	0	0
Total	10	100	10	100

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Agree	10	100	10	100
Disagree	0	0	0	0
No opinion	0	0	0	0
Total	10	100	10	100

Response	No.	%	No.	%
Agree	10	100	10	100
Disagree	0	0	0	0
No opinion	0	0	0	0
Total	10	100	10	100

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

The results of the survey of the attitudes of physicians toward the use of the term "mental retardation" in the medical literature are shown in Table 1. The results of the survey of the attitudes of physicians toward the use of the term "mental retardation" in the medical literature are shown in Table 1.

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Disagree	0	0	0	0
No opinion	0	0	0	0
Total	10	100	10	100

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Agree	10	100	10	100
Disagree	0	0	0	0
No opinion	0	0	0	0
Total	10	100	10	100

Response	No.	%	No.	%
Agree	10	100	10	100
Disagree	0	0	0	0
No opinion	0	0	0	0
Total	10	100	10	100

Other Foods.

Type of Food Premises	Number	Inspections	Notices	No. registered under Sec.14 F. & D. ACT 1938
Cafe/Restaurant	19	23	-	-
Grocers	24	20	-	-
Butchers	8	18	-	8
Wet Fish	2	5	-	-
Fried Fish	2	12	-	-
Greengrocers	5	9	-	-
Sweets	11	10	-	-
Bakehouses	3	16	-	-
Icecream producers/ Retailers	-	-	-	-
Icecream Retailers	46	31	-	46
School Canteens	7	5	-	-

Other Foods Condemned.

Number of tins condemned.....271.  
 Number of lbs. of other foods condemned.....790.

Food Hygiene Regulations.

Frequent inspections have been made of food premises and improvement affected in a number of premises.

Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

1. The Borough Council require users of the slaughterhouse to inform them where meat is disposed. Meat is stained with a green vegetable dye and disposed of to a processing firm or by burying in tip.
2. Condemned tins etc. are disposed of by burying in the Council tip.

Section 6, Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

The following cases of notifiable infectious disease were reported to me during the year:-

Measles.....12 cases.

The district therefore was reasonably free of infectious disease. No death was caused by infectious disease.

Venereal Disease.

The County Council has an agreement with the General and Eye Hospital, Swansea for the treatment of these cases. The tracing of contacts and the following up of defaulters is the responsibility of the County Council.

Tuberculosis. The following details show the position as regards tuberculosis in recent years.

Number of cases on register at commencement of year.....31.  
 Number of fresh cases added during the year.....2.  
 Number of cases removed as recovered.....2.  
 Number of cases removed as left district.....0.  
 Number of deaths during the year.....0.  
 Number of cases remaining on register at end of year.....31.

Percentage of total population	Percentage of total population	Percentage of total population	Percentage of total population	Percentage of total population
100	100	100	100	100
90	90	90	90	90
80	80	80	80	80
70	70	70	70	70
60	60	60	60	60
50	50	50	50	50
40	40	40	40	40
30	30	30	30	30
20	20	20	20	20
10	10	10	10	10
0	0	0	0	0

1900-1901

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1900-1901



The number of notifications in recent years is shown below:-

1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.	1964.	1965.
6.	5.	8.	6.	11.	8.	10.	5.	3.	4.	2.

Both of these cases were transfers from other districts.

### APPENDIX

#### FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1965 FOR THE BOROUGH OF BRECON IN THE COUNTY OF BRECONSHIRE.

#### Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

#### Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector ).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspect- ions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
i. Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	7	13	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	32	31	-	-
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	39	34	-	-

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been elected to the office of the

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1900

1900	1900	1900	1900	1900
1900	1900	1900	1900	1900
1900	1900	1900	1900	1900
1900	1900	1900	1900	1900
1900	1900	1900	1900	1900

2.- Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more cases).

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

There was no outwork done in the district during the year.

Yours faithfully,

T.C.R. George,

Medical Officer of Health.



